



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No. **RECEIVED** 10/014,310
Filing Date **FEB 12 2003** December 11, 2001
Inventor..... Ritesh Shah et al
Assignee..... **TC 1700** Honeywell International Inc.
Group Art Unit..... 1753
Examiner Unknown
Attorney's Docket No. 32120-CON1
Title: Methods of Forming Metal Articles

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

To: Attn: Art Unit 1753
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

From: James E. Lake (Tel. 509-624-4276; Fax 509-838-3424)
Wells St. John P.S.
601 W. First Avenue, Suite 1300
Spokane, WA 99201-3828

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AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please add new claims 68-75 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(i).

68. (new) A tantalum target blank comprising:
- (a) at least about 99.95 weight percent tantalum; and
 - (b) a substantially uniform {100} crystallographic orientation throughout the thickness of said blank.
69. (new) The tantalum target blank of claim 68 comprising a sputtering target.
70. (new) The tantalum sputtering target of claim 69 produced from a frictionless forged billet.

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